

# Social Policy in an Interdependent World

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FAU

# Syllabus

- Prerequisites: Microeconomics, Introduction to Econometrics
- Language: English
- Availability: annually (summer semester)
- Compulsory module in the programs International Business Studies and International Economic Studies (4th semester)
- Workload 150 h (including 60 contact hours)  $\equiv$  5 ECTS
- Lecture (2 h per week) + tutorial (2 h per week)
- No lecture on June 26
- Examination: 60-minutes written examination (July 14, 5 p.m., H4)
- Slides, papers, exercises, data etc. on StudON (password protected)
- Instructor: Elisa Poletto (elisa.poletto@fau.de)
- Exercises: Thursday, 3:00-4:30 p.m (H4) or 4:45-6:15 p.m. (H2)

# Learning objectives

- This course aims to
  - ▶ impart country-specific as well as cross-national empirical and theoretical knowledge of welfare systems;
  - ▶ provide students with an understanding of current debates, theories and concepts relevant to social policy in open economies;
  - ▶ enable students to apply economic theories and methods in exploring specific policy fields such as poverty, migration, health, and pensions;
  - ▶ develop students' skills in data analysis in areas pertaining to social policy;
  - ▶ strengthen students' ability to develop reasoned arguments, synthesize relevant information and exercise critical judgement.

- Part I: Concepts
- Part II: Social Policy Areas
- Part III: International Cooperation in Social Policy
- Part IV: International Mobility and Social Security in the EU

- Barr, N. (2020). *The Economics of the Welfare State*. 6th edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

- ILO (2024). World Social Protection Report 2024–26.  
<https://www.ilo.org/research-and-publications>
- OECD (2024). Society at a Glance 2024. Paris.  
<https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/>
- OECD (2020), All Hands In? Making Diversity Work for All. Paris.  
<https://doi.org/10.1787/efb14583-en>.
- OECD (2025). Pensions at a Glance 2025. Paris.  
<https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/>
- World Bank (2018). The State of Social Safety Nets 2018.  
Washington, DC: World Bank.  
<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/29115>

## Electronic sources

- European Commission (Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion):  
<https://ec.europa.eu/social/home.jsp?langId=en>
- Eurostat:  
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/main>
- International Labour Organization (ILO) on social protection:  
<https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/social-security/lang-en/index.htm>
- Mutual Information System on Social Protection (MISSOC):  
<https://www.missoc.org/>
- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) on social and welfare issues:  
<https://www.oecd.org/social/>  
<https://www.oecd.org/els/soc/>
- Worldbank on Social Protection:  
<https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/socialprotection>